

January 21, 1976

PRESIDENT: Record your vote please. Have you voted? Have you all voted? Record.

CLERK: 20 ayes, 22 nays to adopt the Kelly amendment.

PRESIDENT: The motion fails. Senator Shirley Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: I do not know whether this is an indication of how the total body feels on taking a day at all. If you simply want to stay in your own office and be caught up with bills, this would give you an opportunity to have one day that you are not responsible for making someone else work on a state holiday. I would urge you to adopt this much of the motion, even though you could not accept the entire proposal.

PRESIDENT: Senator Mahoney.

SENATOR MAHONEY: I'm speaking on Senator Marsh's .... I believe that Senator Stoney probably, in one of the great talks of this Legislature, said it. We should get back home. We should have our business done with. The Speaker, one week ago, put this program out for us. Everybody saw the program. We should follow that Speaker's guidance. We've all made arrangements to do certain things by the end of the month. Many of us must get back to those things that we're doing.

I would hope that you'd turn this down and follow the Speaker.

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers. Senator Cavanaugh. Senator Burbach.

SENATOR BURBACH: There are two things I'd like to bring up, Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature. One of them is, I think we can dispense with having a skeleton staff, asking the other departments of state government to be here. If we run into a problem where we would like to confer, on that day, with some of the people in the other departments we can pass that bill over and set it for the following day, discuss it then and get our information. I think this can be arranged without the other state employees staying as a skeleton staff on the payroll, or being around that day. Let them have the day off.

I think the other thing is that it's very important that we don't lose that Thursday or Friday for those committees that meet on a Thursday and a Friday. Probably some cases, and I do not know if this is correct, maybe a hearing has already been set for those dates. If it has, I realize it could be changed. But I think the orderly process is to stay in session on Thursday and Friday, and continue on with the bills that have been set for that day or not. Otherwise, it will shortchange those committees one full week in their deliberations. Certainly we would like to move our public hearings along as fast as we can, but give them good, fair consideration so we can go back into all-day sessions.

I would be hopeful that this body would turn down that request.